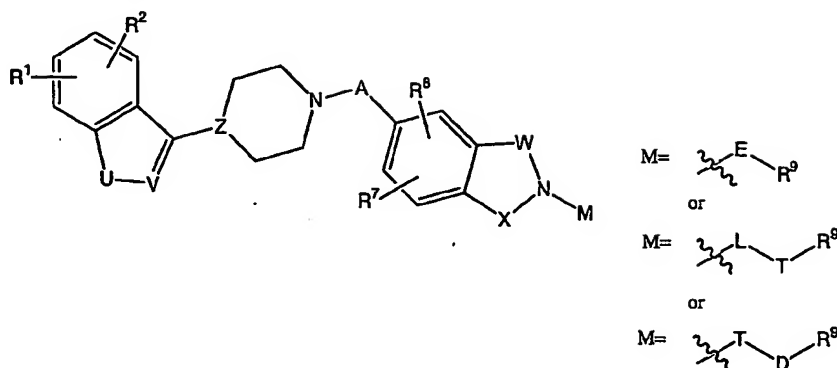


-134-

CLAIMS

1. A compound of formula 1



5 wherein

U is sulfur, oxygen, SO, SO₂, CH₂ or NR³;

V is nitrogen or carbon;

Z is nitrogen or carbon;

10 A is -(CH₂)_mO-; -(CH₂)_mNR⁴-; or -(CH₂)_mC(R⁵R⁶)-, wherein R⁵ and R⁶ are independently selected from hydrogen, (C₁-C₄) alkyl optionally substituted with from one to three fluorine atoms, (C₁-C₄) alkoxy optionally substituted with from one to three fluorine atoms, hydroxy, and aminoalkyl; or R⁵ and R⁶ together form a carbonyl, and wherein m is an integer from one to four;

15 R¹ and R² are independently selected from hydrogen, (C₁-C₄) alkyl optionally substituted with from one to three fluorine atoms, (C₁-C₄) alkoxy optionally substituted with from one to three fluorine atoms, halogen, nitro, cyano, amino, (C₁-C₄) alkylamino and di-(C₁-C₄) alkylamino;

20 R³ and R⁴ are independently selected from hydrogen, (C₁-C₄) alkyl optionally substituted with from one to three fluorine atoms and (C₁-C₄) alkoxy optionally substituted with from one to three fluorine atoms;

or, when U is NR³, one of R¹ and R² can form, together with the carbon to which it is attached, and together with R³ and the nitrogen to which it is attached, a heterocyclic ring containing from four to seven ring members of which from one to three ring members can be heteroatoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur,

-135-

and of which the remaining ring members are carbon, with the proviso that when R^3 forms a ring with one of R^1 and R^2 , the other of R^1 and R^2 is absent.

X is $-[C(R^{11})(R^{12})]_o-$, wherein R^{11} and R^{12} are independently selected from hydrogen and (C_1-C_4) alkyl optionally substituted with from one to three fluorine atoms, and wherein o is an integer from zero to three, with the proviso that when W is absent, o must be greater than or equal to two;

W is $-[C(R^{13})(R^{14})]_p-$, wherein R^{13} and R^{14} are independently selected from hydrogen and (C_1-C_4) alkyl optionally substituted with from one to three fluorine atoms, and wherein p is an integer from zero to four, with the proviso that when X is absent, p is greater than or equal to two;

R^7 and R^8 are independently selected from halo, R^1 and $-OR^1$; or R^7 , when attached to a carbon adjacent to one of the carbon atoms shared by both the phenyl ring to which R^7 is attached and the ring containing W, N and X, forms, together with a carbon atom of X or a carbon atom of W, a saturated carbocyclic ring containing from three to six carbon atoms;

R^9 is selected from phenyl, phenoxy, benzyloxy, and phenylamino, wherein the phenyl moieties of said phenyl, phenoxy, benzyloxy, and phenylamino are optionally substituted with from one to three substituents independently selected from halo, (C_1-C_3) alkyl optionally substituted with from one to three fluorine atoms, (C_1-C_3) alkoxy optionally substituted with from one to three fluorine atoms, nitro, cyano, amino, and (C_1-C_3) alkylamino; or

R^9 is a pyrrolidine, piperidine or morpholine ring wherein the point of attachment to D, T or E is the ring nitrogen, and wherein said pyrrolidine, piperidine or morpholine ring can be optionally substituted with one or two substituents independently selected from methyl, amino, (C_1-C_4) alkylamino, and di- (C_1-C_4) alkylamino; or

R^9 is a furan, thiophene, or pyrazole ring optionally substituted with one or two (C_1-C_4) alkyl groups; or

R^9 is (C_1-C_6) straight or branched alkyl or (C_3-C_6) cycloalkyl, wherein said straight, branched and cyclic alkyl moieties are optionally substituted with from one to three halo atoms or (C_1-C_4) alkoxy optionally substituted with from one to three fluorine atoms; or

-136-

R^9 is halogen, nitro, cyano, amino, (C₁-C₄) alkylamino, di-(C₁-C₄) alkylamino or OR¹, wherein the alkyl moieties of (C₁-C₄) alkylamino and di-(C₁-C₄) alkylamino are optionally substituted with an amino, (C₁-C₄) alkylamino, or di-(C₁-C₄) alkylamino group;

5 E is -C(O)-, -S(O)- or -SO₂;

T is -C(O)- or -CO₂;

L is -(CH₂)_n wherein n is an integer from zero to three;

D is -(CHR¹⁰)_q-, wherein q is an integer from one to three, or NR¹⁰;

R¹⁰ is hydrogen or straight or branched (C₁-C₃) alkyl;

10 and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

2. The compound according to claim 1 wherein U is sulfur.

3. The compound according to claim 1 wherein V is nitrogen.

15

4. The compound according to claim 1 wherein Z is nitrogen.

5. The compound according to claim 1 wherein A is -(CH₂)_mC(R⁵R⁶)-, wherein R⁵ and R⁶ are hydrogen and m is one or two.

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6. The compound according to claim 1 wherein X is absent.

7. The compound according to claim 1 wherein W is -[C(R¹³)(R¹⁴)]_p-, wherein R¹³ and R¹⁴ are independently selected from hydrogen and (C₁-C₄) alkyl and p is an integer from two to four.

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8. The compound according to claim 1 wherein E is -C(O)- and R⁹ is (C₁-C₄)alkyl.

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9. The compound according to claim 1 which is selected from the group consisting of

1-{5-[2-(4-Benzo[d]isothiazol-3-yl-piperazin-1-yl)-ethyl]-6-chloro-2,3-dihydro-indol-1-yl}-ethanone;

-137-

1-{5-[2-(4-Benzo[d]isothiazol-3-yl-piperazin-1-yl)-ethyl]-3,3-dimethyl-2,3-dihydro-indol-1-yl}-ethanone;

1-{7-[2-(4-Benzo[d]isothiazol-3-yl-piperazin-1-yl)-ethyl]-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-benzo[b]azepin-1-yl}-ethanone;

5 1-{6-[2-(4-Benzo[d]isothiazol-3-yl-piperazin-1-yl)-ethyl]-4,4,8-trimethyl-3,4-dihydro-2H-quinolin-1-yl}-ethanone;

1-{5-[3-(4-Benzo[d]isothiazol-3-yl-piperazin-1-yl)-propyl]-6-chloro-2,3-dihydro-indol-1-yl}-ethanone;

10 1-{5-[2-[4-(6-Fluoro-benzo[d]isothiazol-3-yl)-piperazin-1-yl]-ethyl]-2,3-dihydro-indol-1-yl}-ethanone; and

1-{5-[2-(4-Benzo[d]isothiazol-3-yl-piperazin-1-yl)-ethyl]-4-chloro-2,3-dihydro-indol-1-yl}-ethanone.

15 10. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

20 11. A method for treating a disorder or condition selected from single episodic or recurrent major depressive disorders, dysthymic disorders, depressive neurosis and neurotic depression, melancholic depression including anorexia, weight loss, insomnia, early morning waking or psychomotor retardation; atypical depression or reactive depression including increased appetite, hypersomnia, psychomotor agitation or irritability, seasonal affective disorder and pediatric depression; bipolar disorders or manic depression, for example, bipolar I disorder, bipolar II disorder and cyclothymic disorder; conduct disorder; disruptive behavior disorder; behavioral
25 disturbances associated with mental retardation, autistic disorder, and conduct disorder; anxiety disorders such as panic disorder with or without agoraphobia, agoraphobia without history of panic disorder, specific phobias, for example, specific animal phobias, social anxiety, social phobia, obsessive-compulsive disorder, stress disorders including post-traumatic stress disorder and acute stress disorder, and
30 generalized anxiety disorders; borderline personality disorder; schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders, for example, schizophreniform disorders, schizoaffective disorders, delusional disorders, brief psychotic disorders, shared psychotic disorders, psychotic disorders with delusions or hallucinations, psychotic episodes of

-138-

anxiety, anxiety associated with psychosis, psychotic mood disorders such as severe major depressive disorder; mood disorders associated with psychotic disorders such as acute mania and depression associated with bipolar disorder; mood disorders associated with schizophrenia; delirium, dementia, and amnestic and other cognitive or neurodegenerative disorders, such as Parkinson's disease, Huntington's disease, Alzheimer's disease, senile dementia, dementia of the Alzheimer's type, memory disorder, vascular dementia, and other dementias, for example, due to HIV disease, head trauma, Parkinson's disease, Huntington's disease, Pick's disease, Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, or due to multiple aetiologies; movement disorders such as akinesias, dyskinesias, including familial paroxysmal dyskinesias, spasticities, Tourette's syndrome, Scott syndrome, PALSYS and akinetic-rigid syndrome; extra-pyramidal movement disorders such as medication-induced movement disorders, for example, neuroleptic-induced Parkinsonism, neuroleptic malignant syndrome, neuroleptic-induced acute dystonia, neuroleptic-induced acute akathisia, neuroleptic-induced tardive dyskinesia and medication-induced postural tremour; chemical dependencies and addictions and behavioral addictions such as an addiction to gambling; and ocular disorders such as glaucoma and ischemic retinopathy in a mammal, comprising administering to the mammal in need of such treatment an amount of a compound according to claim 1 that is effective in treating such disorder or condition.

12. The method according to claim 11, wherein the disorder or condition is selected from major depression, single episode depression, recurrent depression, child abuse induced depression, postpartum depression, dysthymia, cyclothymia and bipolar disorder.

13. The method according to claim 11, wherein the disorder or condition is selected from schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorder, delusional disorder, substance-induced psychotic disorder, brief psychotic disorder, shared psychotic disorder, psychotic disorder due to a general medical condition, and schizophreniform disorder.

14. The method according to claim 11, wherein the disorder or condition is selected from generalized anxiety disorder, panic disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder,

-139-

post-traumatic stress disorder, and phobias, including social phobia, agoraphobia, and specific phobias.

15. A method of treating a disorder or condition selected from single episodic or
5 recurrent major depressive disorders, dysthymic disorders, depressive neurosis and
neurotic depression, melancholic depression including anorexia, weight loss,
insomnia, early morning waking or psychomotor retardation; atypical depression or
reactive depression including increased appetite, hypersomnia, psychomotor
10 agitation or irritability, seasonal affective disorder and pediatric depression; bipolar
disorders or manic depression, for example, bipolar I disorder, bipolar II disorder and
cyclothymic disorder; conduct disorder; disruptive behavior disorder; behavioral
disturbances associated with mental retardation, autistic disorder, and conduct
disorder; anxiety disorders such as panic disorder with or without agoraphobia,
15 agoraphobia without history of panic disorder, specific phobias, for example, specific
animal phobias, social anxiety, social phobia, obsessive-compulsive disorder, stress
disorders including post-traumatic stress disorder and acute stress disorder, and
generalized anxiety disorders; borderline personality disorder; schizophrenia and
other psychotic disorders, for example, schizophreniform disorders, schizoaffective
20 disorders, psychotic disorders with delusions or hallucinations, psychotic episodes of
anxiety, anxiety associated with psychosis, psychotic mood disorders such as severe
major depressive disorder; mood disorders associated with psychotic disorders such
as acute mania and depression associated with bipolar disorder; mood disorders
associated with schizophrenia; delirium, dementia, and amnestic and other cognitive
25 or neurodegenerative disorders, such as Parkinson's disease, Huntington's disease,
Alzheimer's disease, senile dementia, dementia of the Alzheimer's type, memory
disorder, vascular dementia, and other dementias, for example, due to HIV disease,
head trauma, Parkinson's disease, Huntington's disease, Pick's disease, Creutzfeldt-
Jakob disease, or due to multiple aetiologies; movement disorders such as
30 akinesias, dyskinesias, including familial paroxysmal dyskinesias, spasticities,
Tourette's syndrome, Scott syndrome, PALSYS and akinetic-rigid syndrome; extra-
pyramidal movement disorders such as medication-induced movement disorders, for
example, neuroleptic-induced Parkinsonism, neuroleptic malignant syndrome,

-140-

- neuroleptic-induced acute dystonia, neuroleptic-induced acute akathisia, neuroleptic-induced tardive dyskinesia and medication-induced postural tremour; chemical dependencies and addictions and behavioral addictions such as an addiction to gambling; and ocular disorders such as glaucoma and ischemic retinopathy in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal:
- 5 (a) a compound according to claim 1; and
- (b) another pharmaceutically active compound that is an antidepressant or an anti-anxiety agent, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;
- wherein the active agents "a" and "b" are present in amounts that render the
- 10 combination effective in treating such disorder or condition.